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Chair Anne Kaiser  
Members of the Ways and Means Committee  
131 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 5, 2020

RE: HB1284

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

The Maryland Film Industry Coalition is an alliance of business and labor leaders, educational institutions and individuals who work together to improve the business conditions for the film industry in the state of Maryland.

We have worked with this committee for over ten years to develop a film incentive program and most recently in the 2018 session were happy to get a film incentive in place that provides credits to both large and small productions. The best part of this new program is that studio decision makers and producers can plan ahead for long term series and films in development knowing that Maryland has a program with certainty and one without a sunset.

HB1284 seeks to repeal the carry forward of excess film production credits into subsequent fiscal years. Removing this carry forward will hurt the Department of Commerce's ability to put incentive packages together to attract or retain existing productions, such as the ability to keep a television series in Maryland.

We respectfully oppose this change to the existing tax credit legislation.

Sincerely,

Robert Middleton  
Chair, MFIC

Debra Donaldson Dorsey  
Chair, Government Relations  
Committee, MFIC